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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Application Title : SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR DETERMINING A SEED VIGOR INDEX FROM GERMINATING SEEDLINGS BY AUTOMATIC SEPARATION OF OVERLAPPED SEEDLINGS

Application No. : 09/591,432  
Applicant : McDonald et al.  
Filing Date : June 9, 2000  
Art Unit : 2621  
Examiner : Ryan J. Miller  
Attorney Docket No. : 22727.04060  
Customer Number : 24024

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Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Office action dated March 10, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 15 of this paper.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this communication is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service, with sufficient postage as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 10th day of August 2004.

Print Name

*Robert R. Lech*

Signed

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